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BOOK DEPARTMENT.

NOTES.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN has for many years pursued the plan, not unusual in foreign universities, of employing a printed syllabus in connection with its lecture courses in economics. The outline used by Professor H. C. Adams in his courses covers the field of both theoretical and applied economics. Quite recently this has been supplemented by a six page synopsis of lectures on "English Industrial Development,"* containing well-chosen bibliographical references and an outline of the field to be covered by the course in this subject. So long as we remain without satisfactory textbooks, some such supplement as this to the ordinary lecture course is almost indispensable.

The practical difficulties connected with such a syllabus have to do with the library rather than with the class-room. Brief as it is, this synopsis refers to the works of twenty different authors, aggregating thirty-five volumes. A small class might possibly be able to look up all the references given, even though the library contained only one copy of each work. A class of twenty could hardly be expected to do it. A class of fifty would find it impossible. Shall students be required to purchase more books than is now customary, or shall our university libraries adopt the plan of buying numerous duplicate copies of standard works? The latter alternative seems alone practical but is sure to arouse opposition on the part of library authorities.

WITHIN RECENT YEARS the study of constitutional law has become a recognized part of a liberal education. In Dr. Boyd's "Cases on American Constitutional Law"† we have a tacit recognition of this development, since it is intended for the use of university students rather than of practicing lawyers. In judging of the value of such a collection, which makes pretension not to originality but to convenience, the only points for criticism are the arrangement and the completeness of the material presented. The author has arranged his cases in sixteen convenient groups, *e. g.*,

* *History of English Industrial Development.* (Political Economy, iii.) Synopsis of Lectures. Ann Arbor: George Wahr, 1898.

† *Cases on American Constitutional Law.* Edited by CARL E. BOYD, Ph. D. Chicago: Callaghan & Co., 1898.

Taxation, Money, Commerce, etc., and in each group has given apparently only such cases as were deemed of most importance. Bearing in mind the needs of the student he has also made frequent omissions of the unimportant details in the decisions and has added occasional explanations and references of considerable value.

The usefulness of this compilation would have been increased if each case of a complex character were placed under several headings. Thus a case like *Marburg vs. Madison* ought not to figure only under the heading "Validity of Legislation." It seems also as if the cases under "Federal Government and the States" might have been better selected.

The collection is thoroughly up to date, including *In re* Debs on the Scope of Injunctions and Recent Income Tax Decisions.*

THE GREAT INTEREST which is just now being taken in all parts of the world in the reclamation of arid lands through artificial irrigation, insures for Mr. Brough's scholarly monograph on "Irrigation in Utah"† a wider circle of readers than usually greets a doctor's thesis. The main body of this work is divided into two parts, of which Part I deals exhaustively with "The Economic History of Irrigation in Utah," while Part II discusses less fully "The Problems of Irrigation in Utah." Each of these parts is supplied with an excellent bibliography and the whole work concludes with appendices explaining the topographical features of Utah and some technical points connected with irrigation. As was to be anticipated a considerable portion of Part I is devoted to a description of the industrial system of the Mormons, to whom the credit for the success irrigation has attained in Utah is mainly due. Briefly described this system was that of co-operation coupled with private property in land. Each cultivator received at the outset a farm of a certain size and certain water rights in return for which he was required to do his share of work on the common canal and ditches which brought the all-important water from the head of the cañon to the farms in the valley. As population became denser this system was extended and modified. Secondary and tertiary water rights were recognized in addition to the primary rights originally granted, and gradually the right to a certain supply of water seems to have become the object of private property dissociated from the land which without it is of little value. At the present time large

* Contributed by Dr. James T. Young.

† *Irrigation in Utah*. By CHARLES HILLMAN BROUGH. Pp. xv, 212. Price, \$1.50. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1898.

capitalistic water companies are common in Utah, but these have never been managed in such a way as to arouse the cry of monopoly in that state as has been the case in Colorado.

The principal "problems of irrigation" discussed in Part II have to do with the control of the water supply. The author advocates: (1) the cession to the state by the national government of all irrigable lands still included in the public domain; (2) the sale of these lands to individuals, to whom water is to be supplied by incorporated water companies whose rights and duties are rigidly prescribed in their charters; and (3) the creation of a state board of water control to exercise supervision over the water companies and their customers. Though full of commendation for public ownership as carried out by the Mormons, the author has little confidence in the efficiency or integrity of a system of public ownership dominated by the recently created state government.

The future of irrigation in Utah, though assured, can hardly be considered brilliant. Of the 52,601,600 acres in the state, only 3,654,000 are believed by the author to be irrigable and of these nearly one-third have already been ditched and rendered suitable for cultivation. So far as is yet known the water supply must be drawn entirely from the surface and therefore is replenished solely by the annual rain and snowfall which in Utah is not much over thirteen inches.

The author points to the increase of 17 per cent in the volume of water contained in Salt Lake since 1870 as an indication that this supply will become more and more abundant, but just how this is to be brought about as long as the rainfall remains constant is not made clear. In estimating the chances of the future the author, furthermore, overlooks entirely the danger that continuous irrigation may exert a deteriorating influence on the fertility of the soil as it is said to have done in India. According to a reputable writer large areas in that country have been converted from fertile fields into alkaline deserts by irrigation, owing to a lack of suitable underground drainage. It would be interesting to learn whether the large crops which are obtained in Utah during the first decade after the land is brought within the pale of irrigation continue without diminution over longer periods, but this is a point to which the author's attention does not seem to have been directed.

THE LABOR DEPARTMENT of the English Board of Trade is bringing out a series of reports on "Changes in the Employment of Women and Girls in Industrial Centres" to supplement the general

report on the "Statistics of the Employment of Women," published in 1895. The first of these reports* was prepared by Miss Collet and deals with the flax and jute industries. It contains an interesting history of female labor in these industries as well as a sketch of present conditions. The conclusions arrived at justify a very optimistic view of the future of female factory hands. Their wages have risen more rapidly than those of men, while there is an increasing difference in the rates of wages received by skilled and by unskilled women. At the same time "children working half-time now earn more than when working full time in 1833." A comparison of the condition of female operatives in Dundee and Belfast seems to indicate that women are better off in the latter place, although their wages are higher in the former.

IN HIS "*Cent Ans d'Histoire interieure*"† André Lebon undertakes to explain why French political systems during the past century have not developed a people capable of representative government, such as is known in England and the United States. He lends additional interest to his story by accompanying it with many suggestive hints concerning the might-have-beens of history. No attempt is made to detail the causes of the successive convulsions through which France has passed, but the summary judgment is given that the accumulating errors coupled with the increasingly repressive rule of each period were responsible for the excesses with which each closed. Here is the fundamental weakness of France, for in the author's words: "It is not by rushing from one extreme to another that a great country establishes its liberty or preserves its position in the world." Many, if not all, of these violent changes might, in the author's opinion, have been avoided. Had any ruling house other than that of Bourbon been placed on the French throne in 1815 an opportunity would have been given for such a development as England experienced after the expulsion of James II. Louis XVIII. endeavored to restore the conditions of 1780, and instead of that gradual advance in political ability which might have been secured, the absence of opportunity left France in 1830 no more capable of self-government than she had been in 1815. Louis Philippe and Napoleon did little better, so that no generation during the past century has been trained in the proper use of the political freedom which its predecessor for a few years secured.

* *Changes in the Employment of Women and Girls in Industrial Centers.* Report by Miss COLLET. Part I. *Flax and Jute Centers.* Pp. iv, 113. Price, 6d. London: Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1898.

† *Cent Ans d'Histoire interieure, 1789-1895.* By ANDRÉ LEBON. Pp. 339. Price, 4 francs. Paris: Colin & Cie, 1898.

After a severe struggle, lasting from 1870 to 1885, the tendency toward reaction seems to have suffered a decisive check and now for the first time the nation has an opportunity for political development. Its successes or failures in representative government cannot fairly be compared with those of England or the United States, but as a generation comes into control, which has had training in such methods, more may be expected. Although M. Lebon omits all discussion of the foreign relations of his government his book suffers somewhat from condensation. Nevertheless it is well written and suggestive. Every one will not share his belief in the future of the existing republic, but all may hope that he has prophesied wisely.*

"INDUSTRIAL EXPERIMENTS in the British Colonies of North America"† quite sustains the character of the Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science in which it appears as an extra number. The work is divided into three parts: (1) A statement of the advantage to Great Britain in having her naval stores produced in her own colonies rather than imported from Northern Europe; (2) an account of the various methods adopted by the home government to encourage the production of naval stores in the colonies; and (3) growing out of the preceding, the conflict of commercial interests between the mother country and the colonies. The purposes of Great Britain in adopting the policy described in this book are shown to be twofold: she wished to be as independent of Europe as possible, and she wished to have the largest colonial market for her manufactured commodities. Without the production of naval stores, the middle and northern colonies did not have sufficient raw materials to keep up the balance of trade; further, these colonies had not specie to make good this deficiency, hence they were driven to manufacture for themselves.

With the above as a groundwork Miss Lord has given in some detail an account of the attempts of the home government to keep the colonies producing raw materials in the form of naval stores and of the resistance of the colonists. Present interest in industrial history assures to this work a kindly reception. The book is a fair example of the historical monograph now being written in American universities. Citations and references are given on almost every page. The study is largely based on the Board of Trade Papers, although references are made to many other authorities.

*Contributed by Dr. Charles H. Lincoln.

†*Industrial Experiments in the British Colonies of North America*. By ELEANOR LOUISA LORD. Pp. x, 154. Price, \$1.25. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1898.

AN INTERESTING AND useful handbook* on state, county, township and city government has just been issued by the University Book Store of Minneapolis. The author, Dr. Frank L. McVey, is Instructor in Economics in the University of Minnesota. This small volume of eighty-three pages contains a succinct account of the organization of the state and local governments together with much interesting data concerning the electoral divisions and judicial districts. The book will be of considerable value in elementary instruction in civics, for which purpose it is primarily designed. It is to be hoped that in the course of the next few years we shall have a series of similar handbooks covering all the states of the Union. At the present time the greatest need for civic instruction is in state and local government. The concentration of interest in national affairs has been accompanied by a loss of interest in state and local affairs, which has reacted most unfavorably upon the vigor of state institutions. This valuable little book by Dr. McVey is an indication of a healthful reaction destined to give the different portions of our political system their due place in the activity and interest of our citizens.

JOHN HENRY NORMAN has recently brought out a second and enlarged edition of his useful "Ready Reckoner of the World's Exchanges," under the title of "Norman's Universal Cambist."† A new preface has been added in which is reprinted a leaflet by the author entitled "The Science of Money," which is made the text for an earnest appeal for public school instruction in the subject of money to accompany courses in geography. The book is divided into two parts. The first contains a general explanation of the monetary systems of the world and of the terms employed in connection with foreign exchanges. In the second part the author takes up special problems connected with exchanges and gives exhaustive tables, by the aid of which the exchange broker can work out the most complicated questions that are likely to arise in connection with his business transactions. Mr. Norman has a rare talent for simplifying and clarifying the mathematical operations connected with foreign exchanges, and suggests numerous original methods for reckoning the ratios of exchange between gold and silver basis countries, pairs of exchange, etc. Though intended

* *Minnesota. State, County, Township and City.* A handbook of information concerning the state, its government, officers and resources.

† *Norman's Universal Cambist; A Ready Reckoner of the World's Foreign and Colonial Exchanges.* By JOHN HENRY NORMAN. Pp. xxix, 264. Price, \$3.00. London: Effingham Wilson, 1897.

primarily for business men, the book contains much information and not a few suggestions that will be helpful to teachers of economics.

"AN EIGHT-HOURS DAY,"* by W. J. Saxby, contains some interesting notes on different phases of the question treated. The author is opposed to a compulsory eight-hours day and seeks to justify his position by bringing together arguments and statements of facts and opinion bearing on both sides of the question. These are arranged in such a way that the arguments in favor of an eight-hours day are promptly refuted, while those opposed to it are strengthened and confirmed by observations of the author. The contents of the volume include: (1) a brief summary of the arguments on either side; (2) an analysis of the probable effects of an eight-hours day; (3) an account of some experiments with an eight-hours day; (4) a *résumé* of proposals looking toward the introduction of an eight-hours day; (5) some facts and quotations about the recent engineering dispute bearing on the question.

PROFESSOR GUSTAV SCHMOLLER has just brought out in one volume those three of his numerous essays, which most clearly define his position touching the scope and method of political economy.† The first of these, "*Ueber einige Grundfragen der Socialpolitik und der Volkswirtschaftslehre*," is already well known and furnishes an appropriate title for the volume. It was originally published in Hildebrand's *Jahrbücher* in 1874 and 1875 in reply to two articles by the late Professor Treitschke on "*Der Socialismus und seine Gönner*," which appeared in the *Preussische Jahrbücher* in 1874. The American reader will deprecate the return to the eye-destroying German lettering after the clear Latin type of the second edition of this monograph.

The second essay, entitled "*Die Volkswirtschaft, die Volkswirtschaftslehre und ihre Methode*" has enjoyed an equally wide circulation through Conrad's *Handwörterbuch* in which it appeared in 1895. In enumerating in the preface the numerous translations of this article which have thus far been published, the author alludes

* *An Eight-hours Day. The Case Against Trade-union and Legislative Interference.* By W. J. SAXBY. Pp. vii, 133. Price, 2s. 6d. London: The Liberty Review Publishing Co., 1898.

† *Ueber einige Grundfragen der Socialpolitik und der Volkswirtschaftslehre.* By GUSTAV SCHMOLLER. Pp. ix, 343. Price, 6.40 marks. Leipsic: Duncker & Humblot, 1898.

to the fact that his American pupils have in progress an English version. It is to be hoped that they will not long delay the completion of their labors. In view of the numerous translations of the works of other German economists, Professor Schmoller has a right to feel neglected by the failure of English and American economists to translate his more important writings. At the same time our students are deprived of that clear grasp of the significance of the work of the New Historical School which only comes to most of us when ideas are presented in our native language.

The last essay in the volume, on "*Wechselnde Theorien und feststehende Wahrheiten im Gebiete der Staats- und Socialwissenschaften und die heutige deutsche Volkswirtschaftslehre*," is less well known in this country than the other two, though it was several times reprinted in Germany after having been delivered by the author on the occasion of his assuming the duties of rector of the University of Berlin, October 15, 1897. Starting out by emphasizing the contrast between the contradictory theories of rival schools and the unchanging truths of science, the address explains the prevalence of the former in the field of the social sciences by the undeveloped condition of human knowledge in this department of investigation. In a brief sketch of the development of political economy he criticises both English individualism and German socialism on the ground that they rest on unreal assumptions about human nature and industrial phenomena rather than on a careful study and analysis of the facts.

The New Historical School, he concludes, connects its economics with psychology and ethics in quite a different way from the older writers. It recognizes that economic phenomena are indissolubly bound up with the large phenomena of social life, and it tries to define more accurately the parts which morality, custom and law perform in the "mechanism of society." "The political economy of to-day has attained an historical and ethical conception of state and society in contrast with rationalism and materialism. It has changed back from a mere science of exchanges, a sort of business economics, which threatened to become the partisan weapon of the propertied class, into a grand moral-political science, which studies the distribution as well as the production of wealth, economic institutions as well as the phenomena of value and which makes man the centre of the science, instead of commodities and capital."

A MOST WELCOME addition to the series of "Economic Classics," edited by Professor W. J. Ashley, is a translation of Turgot's

"*Reflexions sur la formation et la distribution des richesses.*"* This is not merely a reprint of the faulty English translation of 1793, but an entirely new rendering based on the Robineau text in the "*Petite Bibliothèque Économique*" and compared with the original as it appeared in DuPont's "*Ephémérides du Citoyen*" in 1769 and 1770. The translator "has attempted to produce something like the effect of Turgot's style, which is, indeed, inelegant and sometimes rugged, and also very limited in vocabulary, but yet direct and clear," and by following the typography of the original has sought to preserve "something of the eighteenth century flavor." At the same time, the exact words of the original are given in foot-notes whenever there is any question in regard to the accurate rendering of the text. As a result of this painstaking attention to details we have in this translation probably a more accurate reproduction of Turgot's thought than in any French text. Its perusal justifies the editor's observation that, "in spite of Turgot's dislike for the narrow sectarian spirit of the circle that surrounded Quesnay, and the freedom with which he expressed his dissent from them on minor points of doctrine, nevertheless his whole economic thought was dominated by the fundamental physiocratic ideas; and these find in the *Reflexions* their briefest and most lucid expression."

Nine excerpts from Turgot's correspondence with Hume and DuPont, which are printed as an appendix, emphasize still further the substantial identity of Turgot's views with those of the Physiocrats *par excellence*. Here he argues that all taxation must fall on rent, assumes an inflexible and low standard of life for the laboring masses, that "wants are always the same" and looks upon social forces as quite analogous to physical forces and social laws as laws of nature. These letters are doubly interesting because in them Turgot is forced to point out how Physiocratic theory is to be reconciled with the facts of industrial life and shows a less unpractical turn of mind than was attributed to him by Adam Smith.

REVIEWS.

Four Books in Finance.

Bimetallism: A Summary and Examination of the Arguments for and against a Bimetallic System of Currency. By Major LEONARD DARWIN. Pp. 341. London: John Murray, 1897.

* *Reflexions on the Formation and the Distribution of Riches.* By A. R. J. TURGOT. 1770. Edited by W. J. ASHLEY. Pp. xxii, 122. Price, 75c. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1898.